

Vegetation MOU Group
April 24, 2003
Meeting Notes

Anderson Classification – FWS/BOR needs

Graciela Hinshaw and Barbara Simpson polled their office staff to identify their needs for land use classification. For the most part, we have addressed their needs. From FWS, they have more specific needs for Level 2 classification:

- Wetlands – need more specifics on vernal pools and man-made wetlands
- Crops – Need to identify dairy feedlots, orchards, vineyards, rice (structure, homogeneity, management practices), pastures, rangelands, and row crops
- Riparian – need info on different habitat types, including along canals and ditches

The discussion raised the need for a sub-group to identify business needs for land use information in a land-cover data set. Possible participants include: Graciela Hinshaw, Monica Parisi, Jeff Kennedy, Dave Hansen, Tom Hawkins, Jim Suero, Molly Penberth. Their objective also includes:

- * selecting categories that are stable over the life of the data set. If categories are too fine, such as individual crops, and these change from year-to-year, then a mapping effort on a 5-year cycle will be rapidly out-of-date.
- *costs and feasibility of integrating land use data
- *appropriate level of detail for all scales of landcover mapping
- *not ground or administratively based differences in land use

The group will report back to us at our next meeting.

Central Coast mapping project

Mark Rosenberg, Brian Schwind, and Todd Keeler-Wolf described the basic elements of the proposed project. The results of this discussion are included in the overall proposal. Various group members offered to seek additional funding opportunities for the project.

Mapping Rules Crosswalk - update

Hazel Gordon and Monica Parisi have been working with Todd Keeler-Wolf in reviewing the crosswalk table. Approximately one-third of all types are equivalent. Forty-one percent are not cross-walkable between MCV and Calveg due to issues of scale. MCV is field-based and doesn't depend on imagery discernability. Some CalVeg types are geologically or topographically defined, not floristic. However, it seems possible to resolve these differences

Future actions to improve cross-walk include:

- Adding to MCV: average patch-size below the MMU, if hard to see; and discernability via remote imagery
- Identify errors of omission and misinterpretation
- Define summary statements about what types are equivalent, similar, or totally divergent. These terms need to be defined as well.

Need to iteratively improve this table over time. Central Coast project will be a good test of the crosswalk.